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Letter dated 3 January 2018 from the Permanent Representative of the Islamic Republic of Iran to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

Upon instructions from my Government and pursuant to my previous letter dated 19 June 2017 regarding the United States interventionist policy, I have the honour to draw your attention to the most recent and wide-ranging attempts by the Government of the United States to intervene in the national affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran. Against the backdrop of continuous attempts by previous United States administrations to disrupt the course of normal political, social and cultural life in Iran in the past several decades, starting from the coup against Iran's democratically elected Prime Minister in 1953, the current United States administration has crossed every limit in flouting the rules and principles of international law governing the civilized conduct of international relations.

In the past several days, the United States administration, led by the country's President, has stepped up its acts of intervention in a grotesque way in Iran's internal affairs under the pretext of providing support for sporadic protests, which in several instances were hijacked by infiltrators to include acts of senseless homicide, including the murder of a 12-year-old boy and his father, blind violence and rampant destruction. The President and Vice-President of the United States, in their numerous absurd tweets, incited Iranians to engage in disruptive acts. The United States Department of State went so far as admitting that the United States Government wants to encourage protestors in Iran to change their Government, admitting that the United States is engaged in interfering with the internal affairs of Iran through Facebook and Twitter.

The current United States administration, despite its recent empty statements, has continuously insulted the great Iranian nation and displayed open hostility towards Iranian people, including by banning ordinary Iranian citizens from entering the United States. It has furthermore violated even its own commitments under the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action by continuing to impose unlawful sanctions against Iran and by taking every possible devious measure to prevent Iranian people from enjoying the economic dividends of the sanction-lifting obligations of the United States under the Plan of Action.

I wish to underline that the right to protest is recognized and guaranteed in the Constitution of the Islamic Republic of Iran. In exercising this constitutionally sanctioned principle, groups of individuals representing various interests in different corners of the country hold protests, demonstrations and sit-ins almost on a daily basis. As in all other democracies, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran is

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determined to protect this right as well as the safety and security of its citizens against acts of violence and destruction.

The flagrant acts of intervention currently undertaken by the United States Government are in contravention of peremptory norms of international law and in defiance of the principles and purposes of the Charter of the United Nations. My Government expects that all States condemn such dangerous statements and policies and urge the United States Government to act responsibly and to adhere to the principles of the Charter and international law.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Gholamali **Khoshroo**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative